

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 15, 2001

LB 851

through the body, district boundaries shall follow county lines whenever practicable, and shall define districts that are compact and contiguous. I'd handed out a four page blow up, if you will, of the Bromm amendment. On page 1 you can see that, down on the lower left there, about half way through, it's not contiguous. You follow a road, and then you go to another neighborhood that's in one district, but right next door to it it's not.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR BOURNE: No way.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I appreciate, very much, the debate that is taking place here this morning. And I think it is what probably needed to occur yesterday and did t. I also appreciate, very much, Senator Coordsen's discussion of this process. And I do, I still do and maintain that even though a number of us, all of us probably on the floor, have some partisan interest, that there has been a real effort during the redistricting process to keep this on a nonpartisan basis. I really was only joking with Senator Brashear about his former life, and my former life, because essentially, I believe that Senator Brashear has been looking for a nonpartisan approach as well, and hence his offer to compromise. And Senator Vrtiska, I agree with some of the things that you were saying earlier. I know that the compromise brings in yet another set of counties, it brings in Cedar, Dixon, York, and I believe those are the main counties, because Madison is already involved to some degree. And I think that no matter what we do here today, or tomorrow, or on May 31st, there were going to be some unhappy people. There's just no getting around it. But one of the reasons that I have come to believe that the Brashear amendment is the way to go, is because it takes some of the heat away from the decision. I think that from a party standpoint, the Republican Party thinks that the worst thing you could possible do is to move Madison County into the 3rd Congressional District. Now that was never said at any of the hearings but perhaps it was there by implication. I